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Appl. No. 10/799,204 Amdt. Dated December 12, 2006 Reply to Office Action of September 28, 2006

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-3, and 5-7 are pending in the present application.

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed September 28, 2006. In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 3-7, and 24 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b); and claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). In addition, the Examiner indicated allowable subject matter for claims 2, and 25-27 if they are rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have canceled claim 1, amended claims 2, 3, 5-7, and 24-26; and added new claims 28-33. Applicants submit that the newly added claims introduce no new matter. Applicants preserve the right to continue prosecuting the canceled claim in the future. Reconsideration in light of the amendments and remarks made herein is respectfully requested.

New claims 28-33

Applicants have added new dependent claims 28-33 to provide additional limitations. Applicants submit that the newly added claims introduce no new matter. Support of the newly added claims may be found in the Specification, for example, paragraphs [0011] - [0013].

Allowable Subject matter

The Examiner indicates allowable subject matter for claims 2 and 25-27 if they are rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have amended claim 2 to include the limitations of claim 1. Claims 3, 5-7, and 24-26 have been amended to correct the claim dependencies and other minor informalities.

Accordingly, Applicants believe the application is in condition for allowance.

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Conclusion

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: December 12, 2006

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December 12, 2006

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